DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Pakianathan, in the matter of extension of the Kaviyallurkal to the pakuthies of Natalam and Midalam, the Public Works Department reports that the idea of extending the *kal* in the manner suggested by you has to be given up owing to the incapacity of the channel to carry more water.

You next come to the distribution of water from the Amaravathi tank in Thiruvithancode for irrigating the paddy fields in Valiakulam, Tharavila etc. Here too, the Department finds that the water from Amaravathi tank is being utilised for the paddy fields through the Neyyoor *vikal*.

In regard to your next point, estimates for improvements to the Palichalkulam are now under preparation. The improvements necessary for the Koothankulam and Puthukulam are also being investigated. The other two tanks fall within the commanded area and are not in need of any restoration.

Then you come to the subject of providing ryots with pumps at Government expenditure to draw water from the Kuzhithura river for irrigating the neighbouring paddy fields. It is not a matter for the Government. Every ryot is expected, when pumping water is needed, to make arrangements himself. All over Kuttanad, Central and North Travancore there are innumerable pumps, steam pumps and oil pumps held by the ryots, purchased by them and worked by them for their general good. For your taluk, I suggest your paying a visit to Kuttanad, Central and North Travancore and see how the ryots help themselves and then possibly you will go back to Vilavancode and tell your constituency to go and do likewise.

48. Control of motor traffic in Kayancolam.

Mr. P. V. IRUPOOTTY (*Member, Municipal Council, Kayancolam*) said that it was absolutely necessary that the motor stand and the checking station at Kayancolam should be removed from their present site which was in the heart of the town and very near the schools and public offices. Government themselves had felt the necessity for this change and they had in consequence prepared a scheme for diverting the motor traffic through the town to a less crowded region by opening a new road from the place called Puthiyedathumukku to the Catholic church in the north where a bridge was to be constructed and another road opened on the opposite bank. This was a matter which admitted of no delay, and in furtherance of it two suggestions might be made, either of which Government had the option of adopting.

One suggestion was to extend the lane which ran westwards from the present motor stand and to convert it into a cartable road, the checking station and motor stand being located on the banks of the canal. The municipal council was ready to meet the cost of the road; Government had only to provide a bridge. This proposal was a very cheap one both for the council and the Government.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

The second suggestion was to take up immediately the proposed road from Puthiyedathumukku and to locate the motor stand and the checking station at the place where that road met the new municipal road from the present checking station to the Catholic church.

If either of these proposals was accepted by Government, it would go a great way towards relieving the congestion of traffic in the town.

DEWAN'S REPLY:—Mr. Irupooty, I have asked the Commissioner of Police to go and study the question of the location of the checking station and the car stand, in company with the Chief Engineer so that they can see what is the best way of overcoming the inconvenience of which you complain.

49. Medical relief in Tovala taluk.

MR. E RAVI PILLAI CHINNATHAMBIA PILLAI (*Member, Tovala taluk*) said that Government had shown themselves abundantly sympathetic towards the people in the matter of medical relief. The recent cholera outbreak provided an occasion for them to show this sympathy in an unmistakable manner.

The dispensary at Bhootapandy was a great blessing to the villagers of the neighbourhood. The institution could be made still more useful if medicines were dispensed in the morning at Bhoothapandy and in the evening at Azhakiapandiapuram. The pressure of work at Bhootapandi was not so heavy as to make the proposal impracticable. Besides, Azhakiapandiapuram had a large population and being situated close to the hills, was affected by malaria and other diseases. It might probably be said against the proposal that there was a Salvation Army hospital near Azhakiapandiapuram. But there was the circumstance that no medicines were given free in that institution; and the people were too poor to pay for the medical aid they wanted.

The medical officer at Bhootapandy might also be directed to engage himself in some kind of propaganda work in matters relating to public health. The experiences of the doctors during the recent cholera epidemic should have shown how much the ignorance of the people in simple matters of health and sanitation handicapped their work.

Arrangements might also be made for entrusting some specifics for cholera to the Proverthicars, with instructions to distribute them free to the people in cases of urgent necessity. This was meant to help the people, whenever they could not find time to call in doctors.

The caste-Hindu inhabitants of Tovala were drawing their drinking water from channels and tanks. There were no good wells in these regions. It needed no comment for Government to see how easily the water in the channels and tanks got infected in seasons of epidemics. Arrangements might therefore be made for sinking at least one well in each major village. If Government did not find it feasible to meet the whole cost of these wells, it would do if they offered to bear a portion of the cost.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly